Dear God

As we settle excitedly into our own Christmas traditions at home, looking forward to food, fun, amazing gifts and special times together, help us to spare a little time to think of those who are less fortunate than us. Help us to think about:

Those who long to live in peace;

Those who struggle to make ends meet;

Those whose lives are fraught with danger;

Just like that little child, asleep in a manger;

Those who are blighted by famine and thirst;

Those who spend Christmastime fearing the worst;

Those who are hungry and desperate to know

Why the food they so urgently need cannot grow.

Those in the places war-torn and battered;

Those whose family lives are shattered.

Guide us to spare a thought now, just for them

But above all else, God, please bless them -

Amen.